

ATLANTIS

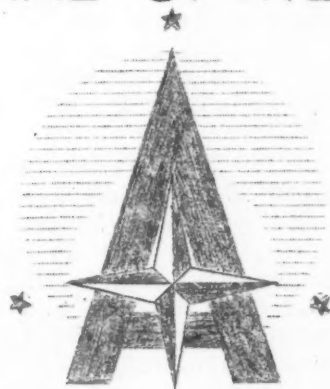
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THE WOBBLE IN THE SPIN OF THE EARTH

In the current issue there are several references to the relative instability in the spin of the earth which, like a huge top, spins steadily round but with a varying angle of inclination.

Perhaps the first writer to draw attention to this as a factor in climatic changes was Lt.Col.Drayson, who published a book on the subject in 1873.¹⁾ His theory was fully described in a book by Admiral Sir Algernon F.R. de Horsey, in 1911,²⁾ and in two books by Alfred H. Barley in 1922.^{3 & 4)}

In writing the above I seem to have done an injustice to Mr. H.B. Walker whose book was published in 1871⁵⁾ but his theory does not go into either the mathematical nor the astronomical sides in any detail.

More recently there has been a mild crop of somewhat alarmist theories from the United States. The one from Mr. G. Brown, about the possibility of the weight of the South Polar Ice Cap causing the earth to tilt is certainly interesting but not very impressive. What seems to be happening is that the southern hemisphere may well be in for a period of colder and stormier winters while the northern hemisphere is having a slow but steady improvement of climate. My own opinion is that Antarctic ice cap is the ideal spot for hydrogen bomb experiments as the intense heat generated would only have the effect of thawing a portion of the ice cap. For those who feel that the solution is to thaw the whole of it, there is another factor which they may have overlooked. If all the ice in the South Polar region were melted it would raise the sea levels of the world by anything between ten and a hundred feet, a prospect which might have serious effects on many parts of the world, as for example Texas, which would soon be submerged.

The current American theory, about which details should be available for May, is that the world is like a gyroscope which is due to change its angle of spin at any moment, the last change over having occurred in about 10,000 BC. The date is possibly only a coincidence, but I am beginning to wonder if some of these theorists are not putting the cart before the horse. Did Atlantis



sink because the axis of the earth tipped, or did the axis tip because Atlantis sank. And if so why?

Most interesting.

ES.

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AN ASTRONOMICAL ATTEMPT OF THE DETERMINATION OF THE DATE OF THE FALL OF TROY

By Prof. Michael Kamienski, A.F.R.A.S.

1. In the well known work by Stanislaus Lubieniecki "Historia Cometarum, A Diluvio usque ad prae-sens annus vulgaris Epochae a Christo nato 1665. decurrentem.... Amstelodami Anno 1666" on page 29 there is the following passage:

"Anno Mundi 2770 mense Augusto, terribilis cometa

"in Geminis ab Assyriis visus est...Bellum

"dinturnum et miserabile propter Helonam, quam

"Paris filius Priami Regis, Menelao Regi Spar-

"tanorum rapuit, ortum est...Troia capta et

"devastata est, Anno Mundi 2783."

Now, it is known that ancient annalists paid but much attention to comets because these were generally considered as meteorological, non celestial phenomena. There are very few cases when annalists noted positions of certain bright comets in the constellations. Occasionally they also mentioned the course of comets against the background of several constellations. Such notes are very valuable, since they enable the identification of comets. Faint comets were, however, not recorded at all.

The identification of ancient comets is a very difficult task because of the uncertainty of elements and perturbations of long periodic comets. Thus, we cannot trace their orbits backwards for more than for few centuries. There exists however one exception - and it is Halley's comet. In consequence of the remarkable investigations of its motion made by two eminent English astronomers Cowell and Crommelin, we can trace this comet as far back as to 240 B.C. The Russian astronomer Vilieu traced its orbit a little more back to 622 B.C. But its previous appearances before 622 B.C. were hitherto unknown.

2. This gap was fulfilled by the author in his article published in the Bulletin of the Polish Academy of Sciences in 1951, concerning the periodicity and ancient apparitions of Halley's Comet. In his article the author presented the list of all the 28 possible its apparitions between 240 B.C. and 2320 B.C. The abridged list was given in "Atlantis" in 1952 (Vol.4 No. 5). Lately, the author improved his list, but the freshly computed years of ancient visibility of this comet do not deviate from the previous ones more than by 2-3 years, what is of no importance for so ancient times.

From his list the author found that Halley's comet should have appeared about 1163 B.C. with a possible uncertainty of few years. Moreover, these preliminary researches proved that the comet could have been visible in the middle of August in the constellation of Gemini.

3. Now, without deeping into historical and chronological researches, the author adapted provisionally, according to S. Lubieniecki (l.c. pg.28), that "Anno Mundi 3947 Christus natus est..."

Consequently, on transforming the years recorded from the Creation (Anno Mundi) to our contemporary reckoning of time, we find that Annus Mundi 2770 corresponds to the year 1178 B.C. - the date of the breaking out of the Trojan War, according to the annalist. Analogically, the year of the destruction of Troy, 2783 Anno Mundi, corresponds to 1165 B.C. It follows that the annalist gives 13 years for the siege of Troy.

Such an amazing coincidence of the chronological data, however problematic, with the astronomical computations of the author, could hardly be an accidental one.

Cracow.

Jan. 4, 1957.

Professor Kamienski in a footnote to his thesis, asks whether anybody has tried by the Carbon 14 method to date the ashes of Troy, to see if they correspond in any way to the reported date of 1165 B.C.

In the following is given an appreciation of one section of the Professor's work on Halley's comet by Mr. L.C. Suggars, our astronomical advisor.

M. Kamienski in his recent work "The probable apparition of Halley's Comet in 2320 B.C.", sets out to verify or otherwise a recorded appearance.

Step by step he takes one through his calculations, pointing out why some mathematical assumptions are better than others and giving the student of celestial mathematics a great insight into this complicated science.

He concludes his work by saying that it can be affirmed with great certainty that about 2320 B.C. Halley's comet passed the perihelion of its orbit, i.e. it passed between the earth and the sun and was consequently seen by mankind. What is also more important he proves that a comet said to have been seen in B.C. 2312 was also Halley's comet but that the date is wrong!

Here we have veritable proof of the astronomer's work in checking dates of ancient happenings; a checking which is of such vital importance to the historian.

To those interested in the movements of comets I recommend this work.

L.C. Suggars.

The views expressed by authors are their own and do not necessarily coincide with those of the editor.

RECENT NEWS ABOUT THE FAMOUS STATUES
OF EASTER ISLAND

(From the Rivista Italiana)

Writing from Panama on August 5th, a correspondent of the Florentine paper "Nation" reports that the Norwegian Scientist Thor Heyerdahl, who led the famous Kon-Tiki raft expedition in 1947, has announced further discoveries as a result of his recent visit and researches on the Island.

One of the greater archaeological curiosities there, is the presence of characteristic statues formed out of a single block of stone. They are all alike, with some minor differences corresponding to the subject; nearly all bust figures with the head raised to the sky. Some are only a metre in height, but most of them weigh up to fifty tons. One of the mysteries connected with these statues is, how they were transported to their present positions from the far-away quarries. The Norwegian believes the apparatus used was very simple. One of several which, in the course of time had fallen to the ground, was transported by a team of 80 natives, with the aid of ropes, and then propped gradually with rocks till it was pulled into a vertical position. This plan was suggested to the explorer by the head man of one of the tribes. When asked why he had not mentioned this to some of the former explorers, he replied "Because they never asked me!"

One of these Easter Island statues is different from the others. It is bearded and has an attitude of prayer. It is almost an exact copy of a statue which was found in Peru. This seems to support the view that the early inhabitants of the island, and of the "Lost Atlantis", had migrated from South America, possibly on rafts which availed of ocean currents as did the Kon-Tiki in 1947.

::: :::

THE HOLPUCH OBJECTS

Has anybody ever heard of the Holpuch Objects? According to a report received from the States, they were discovered on October 18th, 1953 by a couple of amateur astronomers named Mary and Richard Holpuch. They are understood to be of sizes varying from 60 to 100 feet in diameter travelling around the earth in an inclined orbit about 341 miles from the surface, the angle being 35 to 45 degrees from the equator. More than a hundred of them are said to have been counted by the discoverers and other observers, travelling in sporadic groupings. Their speed was estimated at 17 thousand m.p.h. which is about that of the artificial satellites which it is proposed to launch. They glow or are of a dull red colour.

What is of interest is that their orbits, as pre-supposed by Hoerbiger, are inwardly contracting spirals, with the result that eventually these objects reach the surface of the earth. According to a certain John Bagby, who is said to have read papers on them to the Astronomical league of America, they are the residue of a destroyed moon, or a swarm of meteors captured by the gravitational field of the earth.

Nobody in Britain who has been approached seems to have heard of the Holpuch Objects. Can any of our readers assist by supplying us with further information.

THE GAP IN THE DYKE

Was it, asks F.R. Watts, an Oxfordshire plan to trap the Roman Army?

Reprinted from the Oxford Times for 28/12/56

Evidences of a rapidly increasing interest in archaeology, stimulated by television and broadcast talks, are a pleasing feature of our times, but many viewers and listeners would add greatly to their pleasure

if they would devote some time and attention to their own neighbourhood. A casual remark leading to investigation of some object previously overlooked, or regarded as trivial, may have far-reaching results.

Some time ago, while I was discussing with him the probable site of a lost medieval village, Col. Sir Charles Ponsonby queried the purpose of a large bank, or ramp, which lies across the valley immediately below Glympton Assarts Farm. This article is an attempt to describe the investigations and deductions resulting from that query.

Assart is the ancient name for a forest clearing, but in all probability that valley needed little work to make it a clearing. The whole area has been a hunting ground and puzzle for archaeologists ever since General Pitt-Rivers visited it about a century ago, and various theories have been advanced to explain the purpose of the earthworks which are such a prominent feature - perhaps "werc" would be a better word for some of them are rapidly disappearing.

A New Theory

Now the writer has the temerity to advance yet another theory.

The idea that a portion of what we now know as Oxfordshire should have been selected as a suitable battle-ground in the struggle against the Roman invaders, and prepared with the purpose of trapping and destroying one of the armies operating in Britain, will surprise some readers, and may be scouted by others. Nevertheless, the evidences still exist.

The most obvious may be found in the massive earthworks known as Grim's Dyke. The Saxons who saw them in something of their original grandeur were so impressed that they attributed the work to the devil, or more politely, Old Grimm. Within the last century or so they have been regarded as a tribal boundary, a Roman defensive system to protect the villas in the vicinity, or even as Saxon work; and it was not until 1936, when Dr. D.B. Harden carried out excavations, that it was established that they were British, and dated from the

period of the Roman invasion.

This article is mainly concerned with a relatively small portion of the dyke; an area about two miles long by one mile wide just within its eastern perimeter; and the eastern approaches to the Cherwell fords. It seeks to solve some of the remaining problems, and to present the underrated Britons in a more favourable aspect.

A Significant Fact

The area enclosed by the great banks and ditches - some of which do not appear to have been mapped or explored - formed a huge fortress capable of sheltering and supporting many thousands of warriors and their dependants for a considerable period.

The Britons did not construct the dyke in order to starve to death within it, nor had they any opportunity to hunt or search for food while engaged in their colossal task. What genius was responsible for organising the commissariat?

In this connection, it is noteworthy that wherever Dr. Harden cut a section through the dyke he found that it rested on cultivated soil.

The Britons, however, had much more in store for the invaders than Grim's Dyke. Before the Roman army advancing from the east could engage its defenders it had to overcome the obstacle of a strongly defended river - the Cherwell. If we take the 1 inch to the mile Ordnance map, and produce the lines of Akeman Street, Aves Ditch (or Wattle Bank) and the Portway - lying between Somerton and Fritwell - we shall notice a significant fact: they all intersect just opposite Tackley Ford.

The lower portion of Akeman Street is not straight - the original trackway was destroyed. Aves Ditch is not an earthwork in the usual sense of a fortification: it is an obstruction - a dug-up trackway. This is attested by the fact that the small wood which marks its intersection with the Kirtlington - Heyford road is known as Hoar Stone Spinney - a mark-stone (now destroyed) to indicate the intersection of two trackways. The Portway is the remaining portion of a magnificent prehistoric highway connecting Rainsborough Camp with Tackley Ford, of which no other trace remains.

Apparently these three trackways traversed a belt of dense woodland above the eastern brim of the Cherwell valley, and the destruction would impose a considerable delay on the advancing army.

These dug-up trackways are fairly common, and some time ago were classed as Roman roads.

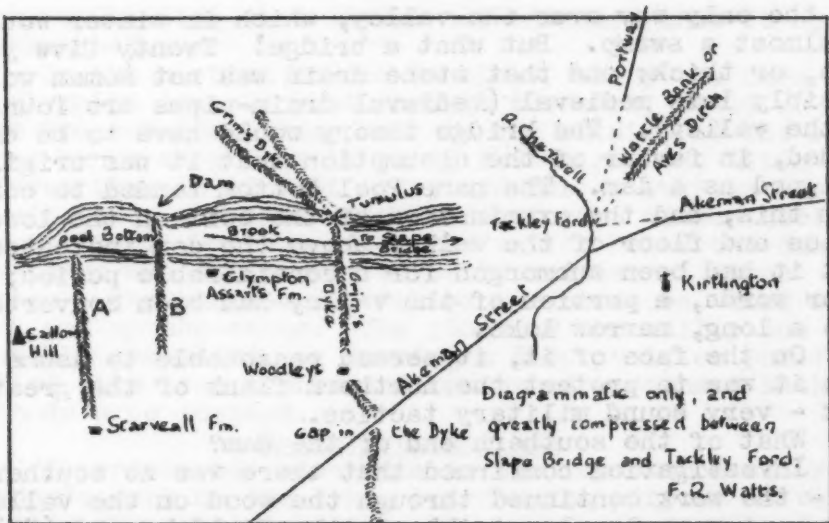
There is no evidence of a "Battle of the Cherwell Fords," any more than there is of a "Battle of Grim's Dyke," so we must conclude the Romans crossed the river without opposition.

A Straight Ditch

What of the problems of the British commander? Eventually the Romans would hack their way through to the river. If they crossed it, then he would have to withdraw to his next defensive position - the great dyke. This would entail sacrificing his "shock troops" the chariot squadrons, for they would be unable to scale the banks. Now let us see how this military genius had to deal with such a situation.

There is a steep dip in the road between Woodstock and Kiddington locally known as Slape Bottom. This is the lower portion of a valley extending from the River Glyme to Ditchley, and unlike most of our Oxfordshire valleys is steep, narrow and for considerable lengths practically straight, so that when approached from its flanks its existence is not suspected until it suddenly comes into view.

Oxfordshire archaeologists know this valley well, also the huge bank and ditch (marked "A" on the diagram) extending in a straight line from a point nearly half-way down its southern slope almost to Starveall Farm. Some 200 yards west of this bank lies the site of the Roman Villa at Callow Hill. It was for long assumed that this enormous bank represented a Roman fortification to protect that villa, but recent excavations have shown that the ditch contained British as well as Roman remains, apparently a British work, later used as a Roman rubbish dump. (There is a very fine aerial photograph by the late Major Allen in the Ashmolean Museum showing the villa site and this bank, but the extreme northern end is not included. Perhaps someone will explain how the



people who are said to have been incapable of setting out a straight trackway managed to perform the far more difficult task of digging a straight ditch).

Apparently the bank and ditch were British, and constructed at the time of the Roman invasion, but unless it could be shown that its terminals rested in dense woodland it could not be regarded as of any strategic value: moreover it lies within three-quarters of a mile of the dyke.

About a quarter of a mile down the valley from the northern terminal of this great bank lies the "ramp," which is still used as such by farm vehicles entering the valley from the fields to the west of Glympton Wood. A stone drain - now collapsed formerly carried a streamlet under the "ramp," which is even now four feet above the water. The southern end of the ramp enters a small wood.

No Southern End

It all seemed perfectly obvious - the occupants of the neighbouring villa had set the local inhabitants to work on this "ramp," or bridge. That for many centuries it was used as a bridge there can be no doubt, as it

was the only way over the valley, which in winter would be almost a swamp. But what a bridge! Twenty five yards wide, or thick; and that stone drain was not Roman work - possibly late medieval (medieval drain-pipes are found in the valley). The bridge theory would have to be discarded, in favour of the assumption that it was originally designed as a dam. The name Pool Bottom tended to confirm this, and the examination of the soil on the lower slopes and floor of the valley above the dam indicated that it had been submerged for a considerable period; in other words, a portion of the valley had been converted into a long, narrow lake.

On the face of it, it seemed reasonable to assume that it was to protect the northern flank of the great bank - very sound military tactics.

What of the southern end of the dam?

Investigation confirmed that there was no southern end - the work continued through the wood on the valley bank, and was clearly visible in the field beyond ("B" on the diagram). So there were two banks and although bank "B" was more reduced than bank "A", there was no reason to doubt that originally it too had been a very formidable obstacle.

A Surprise for the Enemy

Two banks with their northern extremities flanked by a long, narrow, deep lake - which one could almost jump into before it became visible - something sinister about it!

By this time it was becoming obvious that the enemy were expected to enter the dyke in some way, and that those defences were designed to provide them with an unpleasant surprise.

Supposing that the invaders breached the dyke, would they be obliged to move on to these earthworks? We know nothing of the position or extent of the woods (other than that indicated by the long breaks in the dyke) but we can be pretty certain that if, "according to plan," they entered the dyke, those woods would assist in guiding them in the required direction. Oddly enough, the portions of the dyke that an enemy would reach if advancing from the Cherwell are among the most massive of that

work, indicating that it was not intended that it should be breached.

In the section behind Woodleys, where the farm road to Glympton Assarts cuts through the work, it is 60 feet from the outside of one bank to the outside of the other. These banks vary from 12 to 15 feet high, the ditch between them is 12 feet wide, and has an average depth of six feet, and this after 19 centuries of weathering and silting! Springs enter the valley below the dam, but there was no attempt to build another at Slape Bottom - the earth-works follow the contours, down one bank and up the other. The floor of the valley was probably excavated, so forming a deep pool, or possibly filled with tree trunks and brushwood - perhaps both methods were adopted.

An intentional Gap

Reference has been made to the importance of Dr. Harden's work on the dyke, but for the purpose of this article the following discovery must rank first. In Blenheim Park, where the courses of the dyke and Akeman Street intersect, there is a gap in the dyke (of course there would be; surely the Romans were not so foolish as to climb one side of a steep bank in order to slip down the other!) Dr. Harden, however, did not take the seemingly obvious for granted; he carefully excavated in the gap area, and made the amazing discovery that the dyke banks were finished with butt ends - the gap had not been made to allow the passage of Akeman Street, neither was it due to lack of time or materials - it was intentional.

Really, it seems incredible - that colossal work deliberately left unfinished! A gap for the entry of a prehistoric trackway (afterwards embodied in Akeman Street) left to jeopardize the safety of the garrison!

Supposing, however, that the Britons holding the Cherwell Fords had to retire fighting a delaying action while their chariots and great numbers of infantry made their way through the gap, the rearguard and advancing enemy subsequently pouring through also. Supposing that the retiring Britons decoyed the exultant Romans into the terrible cul de sac formed by the two banks and the

lake, there to be attacked by thousands of warriors pouring from the ditches and neighbouring woods. Well then -

A Military Genius

It did not go "according to plan" however. Scouts brought word that another body of the invaders was advancing along the direction of what is now the Foss Way and, rather than risk encirclement, the defences were abandoned and the Britons retired towards the west.

The ancient banks may have yielded up some of their secrets, but not that of the man who planned them. Who was this military genius who knew his country as he knew his hand: who saw how to adapt its natural features to a marvellous system of defence, and who devised a brilliant scheme to save his own troops while annihilating the enemy? Certainly - despite Julius Caesar's description of the Britons (Celts), which is the only standard generally current today - his mental calibre was equal to that of any military commander of the present time, and his subordinates could have been little inferior.

The gold coins of the British kings, the splendid clothes and armour, the weapons with helms, inlaid with gold or exquisitely enamelled in elaborate designs, are only a few of the products of the skill of the men of those times. If one of those Celts could return in the flesh he would only require a trade union card, and a little training, in order to take his place at the bench beside his modern counterpart.

THE SOUTH POLAR ICE CAP

The Possibility of its tilting the axis of the earth

According to Mr. Hugh A. Brown of Long Island, N.Y., the steady increase in the weight of the South Polar Ice Cap, which he states is growing at the rate of 5 trillion tons a year, by which I presume that he means 5 thousand million tons in European parlance. It is hard to work out how these figures have been calculated, but one would

feel that if the increase is at anything approaching this rate it would long since have caused a climatic change of some importance.

Mr. Brown says that the Ice Cap is 6 million square miles in size, - about as big as Australia, and that it has grown from a tropical paradise in less than eight thousand years.

He observes that as this weight of ice builds up is caused great pressures to be brought to bear on the crust of the earth and that when this pressure becomes sufficient the crust will break away from the magma and slide around it, in the same way as it is sometimes possible to detach the skin of a tangerine from the fruit and move it around, without actually breaking the skin.

This wobble will splash the waters of the earth over its surface, the famous girdle tides of Hoerbiger? and thereby destroy most forms of land life. The final result would be the shifting of the poles to opposite sides of the equator and of the equator to a line of longitude. He observes that the North Pole was once in the Lake Chad area, but here I think he is too far to the West as Aden appears to have been a more likely site.

An interesting point in his theory is that the slight bulge at the present equator of the earth is the factor which prevents the axial tilt of the earth from assuming alarming propositions, but, if as he suggests the crust itself can be shifted by strain then the prospects are certainly most interesting.

The solution suggested is to break off the external edges of the ice cap by atomic bombing, this causing it to form masses of icebergs which will drift away and melt. I must say that I am not entirely happy about this as it might have all the disadvantages of atomic warfare without assisting much. The solution would appear to lie more in a concerted attack upon the central area, where the effects of radiation would be greatly limited. This is one of the matters which the geo-physical year experts will have to solve.

A point that Mr. Brown has forgotten is that if we

bomb the periphery we may affect the marine life, especially whales, and thereby cut down our food supplies. In the centre there would be no such danger, as even the penguins live near the waters edge.

LANDS BENEATH THE ATLANTIC

Mr. Lawrence D. Hills, F.R.H.S., spoke to the Research Centre Group on February 15th, to a packed lecture hall, on the subject of "Lands beneath the Atlantic." He covered the legends and stories of the various islands which have been known to sailors during the last couple of thousand years and linked them up with the final disappearance of the remnants of the Atlantean continent. In view of the importance of his lecture and of his forthcoming book, it is proposed to publish an annotated summary of the lecture in the next number of Atlantis, unfortunately there has been inadequate time for the preparation of it before this issue went to press.

The name of Mr. Hills new book is "Lands of the Morning", readers will be advised as soon as it is published. Your editor is at present engaged in reading a copy of the mss and has found it of great interest as, with the exception of Ronciere¹⁾ nobody seems to have dealt with the Atlantis question from the sailor's viewpoint, which covers so many matters which tend to be overlooked by a landsman.

- 1) Saint Croix de la Ronciere. A la Conquete des Mers. Paris 1938.

The attention of readers is drawn to the fact that there are still a few copies available of THE LEY HUNTERS' MANUAL the famous text by M.A. Watkins on the finding of leys or old trackways. With many illustrations and maps, Post Free 4/6 or \$0.80.

SOME NOTES ON EGYPTIAN MYTH AND LEGEND
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Egyptian myth and legend had already solidified before the 1st Dynasty came into power after uniting the two kingdoms of Upper and Lower Egypt, rather in the same manner as England and Scotland became the United Kingdom.

It is certain that the system of names and clan insignia or totems had been in existence for a considerable period, probably several thousand years at least, before BC 3500 or so when the 1st Dynasty came into power.

It would be of great interest to know when the actual war was fought between Set the Sun God and Osiris the Moon God, or, what is more probable between Set the Sun God and Isis the Moon Goddess, with the aid of her consort who was killed, eucharistically devoured, and planted into the soil every year.

That Isis was a great magician is shown by the story of how she slew both Horus and Set who had assumed the form of black bulls and were fighting. Her relations to Horus and Set appear to have been those of a neutral referee rather than those of mother and son to one and enemy to the other.

Horus may well have been the Osiris of one Kingdom, who became the son of Osiris when the two kingdoms were amalgamated. In any case it may safely be assumed that both Osiris, Horus and Set came much later on the scene than the great mother Goddesses such as Hathor, Neigh, Isis and others.

Throughout the Middle East the source of everything is the primeval chaos monster whose name is Tantu, Tiamat or Tiawath to the Babylonians, and Tohu or Tchom to the Hebrews. It is in memory of this early mother goddess that we get such expressions as the "womb of time" etc. One would have expected the Egyptians to have a chaos monster with a similar name but surprisingly enough he was called Nu or Nun. However, on looking further into the question one discovers a deluge monster named Atmu, who seems to have preceded Nu, and would

therefore fit into the general pattern.

All the deluge monsters date back to the waste of waters seen after the great deluge, which was not only that of Noah but also that of Atlantis.

Many people object that there are no deluge legends in Egypt but this is not the case. The earliest tells that the God Atmu caused the waters of the great deep and drowned everybody except those who were with him in his boat, which would indicate that when he or she was deposed from the post of chaos monster he became the Egyptian Neah or Uta Napishtim.

The other tells how Ra ordered Hathor and Sekhmet to destroy mankind, which they did with fire and afterwards when they were wading in human blood he told them to stop. As they would not do so he flooded the world with beer which they drank to such an extent that they became drunk and forgot about killing mankind. The beer was probably the evil smelling muddy flood water as it subsided.

Also there is the story of Thoth and the Siriadic Columns, which he set up to survive both flood and fire being of stone and brick respectively. The story is told by Manetho and also by Josephus, the latter says they were put up by Set or Seth.

This story of the Siriadic Columns fits in with the various Arab legends about the pyramids, which were set up by the wise men before the flood. The tale is told by Abou Balkh who says that two pyramids were 400 cubits in height and that on the casing charms and wonders were inscribed.

Masudi also says: "Surid one of the pre diluvian kings ordered two pyramids to be built in which were deposited records of the past."

The battles between Set and Horus and Set and Osiris may well have been ritual combats renewed annually like those between Mot and Leviathan mentioned in the Ras el Shamara scripts. As it was not always the same side which won, the varying tales of victory or defeat are explained.

The death of Osiris is the annual ritual sacrifice of a barley king and the pilgrimage of Isis should



perhaps be considered in the reverse sense, i.e. that she was planting the dismembered portions of his body to bring about fertility in the barley fields.

That barley beer was the national drink of Egypt is shown by the many references in the texts, one pleasant one is of Nefer Ka Ptah writing a magic spell on a papyrus and washing the ink off with beer which he drank in order to have full knowledge in his mind.

Budge mentions annual combats at which the place of Set was taken by a prisoner who was killed by the noble representing Osiris or Horus.

Perhaps the most important Egyptian legend is that of the Shipwrecked Traveller and the Serpent King, which tells how the traveller left Egypt in a ship 150 Cubits (225 feet) in length and 40 Cubits (60 feet) wide, and was wrecked on an island where he found a huge serpent, the King of all the serpents.

The traveller stayed on the island with his ship-mates until one day a star fell and killed everybody except himself. The island may well be that of Calypso, rediscovered by Homer thousands of years later.

The story is in the Arabian Nights and is entitled Yamilka, the papyrus from which the original was taken is in the Leningrad Museum.

Another link with Egypt and the past is given by the fabulous City of Brass and the City of Many Columned Iram, both of which are mentioned in the Arabian Nights. These tales show that before the first Egyptian dynasties arose there was a tradition of ancient culture in the deserts to the West and the East of Egypt, which seems to be linked with the arrival of the first Atlantean refugees.

Hoffman has suggested that Egypt was first colonised about 13000 BC and that Surid reigned about 13500, the pyramids being built about 12000. He also suggests that the Atlantean Dynasties, including Osiris and Horus reigned at this time.

Paul Schliemann spoke of a papyrus from the Pharaoh Senedi of the 2nd Dynasty mentioning an expedition sent to the West to seek for survivors of Atlantis. It is stated to be in the museum at St. Petersburg.

Our Italian friends, the Centro Culturale ATLANTIDE who publish "LA VOCE D'ATLANTIDE" have changed their address to Piazza Soziglia 12/7 C, Genoa, Italy. Tel.290-403. I would suggest that anybody who has occasion to pass through Genoa either on business or pleasure should give them a call.

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